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Emmys Reflect Industry Tensions in 2018

By JOSE A. DEL REAL AND INYOUNG KANG

The cast and crew of “Game of Thrones” accepted the award for Best Drama at the 70th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles on Monday. Chris Pizzello/Invision, via Associated Press

Good morning.

The 70th Primetime Emmys last night in Los Angeles had all the familiar trappings of Hollywood award shows: red carpet photo shoots, dramatic envelope rites, stiff banter and celebrity close-ups.

In many ways, though, the show reflected the tensions and changes animating the television industry in 2018. Two running themes throughout the ceremony — prompting speculation long before the night kicked off — were the growing role streaming services have played in recent years and the intensifying push for diversity

in casting and directing.

This year, Netflix led the pack with 112 nominations and ended HBO's 17-year streak as the most nominated platform. In the end, Netflix and HBO called it a tie; both came away with 23 Emmys each. HBO claimed the top prize when "Game of Thrones" won for best drama. But it was Amazon that won for best comedy series for "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," one of five awards the show received at the ceremony.

Notably, this year the Emmys boasted the most diverse group of nominees in its history — as those who watched the program were reminded a number of times. "Yes indeedy, one step closer to a black Sheldon," joked Kenan Thompson of "Saturday Night Live," referring to the lead character in "The Big Bang Theory."

Comedians and presenters throughout the evening were quick to mock premature back-patting on inclusion and sexual harassment. A whimsical but pointed musical segment opened the show: "We solved it!" Kate McKinnon and Mr. Thompson sang. Throughout the number they were joined by Sterling K. Brown, Tituss Burgess, Kristen Bell, Ricky Martin and John Legend. (The actual point was: They have not solved it.)

Amid the ceremonies, one unscripted moment nearly stole the whole show: The director Glenn Weiss — who won in the variety special category for directing last year's Oscars — drew stunned cheers and an outpouring on social media when he proposed to his girlfriend live on stage. She said yes.

The winners in top categories:

Best drama: "Game of Thrones" (HBO)

Best comedy: "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" (Amazon)

Best limited series: "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story" (FX)

Best actress, comedy: Rachel Brosnahan, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Best actor, comedy: Bill Hader, "Barry"

Best actress, drama: Claire Foy, "The Crown"

Best actor, drama: Matthew Rhys, “The Americans”

The full list of winners is here.

And for an overview of the awards, click here.

California Online

(Please note: We regularly highlight articles on news sites that have limited access for nonsubscribers.)

Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh has been accused by Christine Blasey Ford of sexually assaulting her at a party in the 1980s when they were both teenagers in high school.

T.J. Kirkpatrick for The New York Times

• The Supreme Court nominee Brett M. Kavanaugh and Christine Blasey Ford, the Palo Alto research psychologist who accused him of sexual assault, will both testify in a **Senate hearing on Monday.** [The New York Times]

• Dr. Blasey **feared an avalanche of attacks** if she came forward, two of her close friends said. [The Mercury News]

• The case echoes Anita F. Hill's in 1991, but this time the battle takes place in the #MeToo era. **"I am stunned that this is happening again,"** said Barbara Boxer, who was part of a group of female representatives who demanded a fair hearing for Ms. Hill. [The New York Times]

• The Trump administration announced a new **cap of 30,000** for resettling refugees, a record low since the program began in 1980. [The New York Times]

• Gavin Newsom, the Democratic candidate for governor, and John Cox, his Republican challenger, have agreed to a **live radio debate** on Oct. 8. [KQED]

• When a San Francisco tech mogul buys a fabled slice of New York media: Marc Benioff's purchase of Time magazine would have been **unthinkable to generations** of editors, our reporters write. [The New York Times]

• Mr. Benioff answered several **questions about the deal** by text message — while getting a massage. [The New York Times]

Elon Musk, left, the chief executive of SpaceX, introduced Yusaku Maezawa, the founder of the online fashion retailer Zozo, on Monday as the first customer for a trip around the moon with one of the company's rockets.

Chris Carlson/Associated Press

• Meet the Japanese billionaire who is **SpaceX's first customer** for a voyage around the moon. [The New York Times]

• **Elon Musk was sued** by Vernon Unsworth, the British cave explorer he had accused of being a pedophile after the two butted heads over the rescue in Thailand over the summer. [The New York Times]

• The Justice Department will oppose colleges and universities that stifle **free speech on campus**, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said. He added that the Justice

Department has statements of interest in four lawsuits, including in cases at U.C. Berkeley and Pierce College in Los Angeles. [The New York Times]

• A prominent architecture professor who was suspended from Berkeley for sexually harassing a student and abusing his power has **resigned from the university.** [The San Francisco Chronicle]

• Three homeless men are in critical condition after they were **beaten with a baseball bat** while they slept in downtown Los Angeles. [The Los Angeles Times]

• More than 200,000 drivers could lose the **clean-air decals** that allow them access to the car pool lane. [The Los Angeles Times]

Big Jay McNeely at the Paradiso in Amsterdam in 1988.

Big Jay McNeely at the Paradiso in Amsterdam in 1988.

Frans Schellekens/Redferns, via Getty Images

• In memoriam: **Big Jay McNeely**, the Angeleno who was hailed as King of the Honkers for his wailing tenor saxophone, which helped establish the instrument at the dawn of rock 'n' roll. [The New York Times]

• What's it like going to **Burning Man** for the first time? [Business Insider]

And Finally ...

Mark Zuckerberg posted a video of himself tooting his own ram's horn in celebration of Rosh Hashana last week.

Now trending in the Bay Area: the shofar, an ancient Jewish horn.

So far the two most prominent figures showing off their musical skills are tech billionaires — Mark Zuckerberg and Marc Benioff, to be exact.

Mr. Benioff played the shofar for the Jewish new year at a synagogue in San Francisco, where he was backed by a guitarist, the holy ark and a toddler wielding a purple plastic horn.

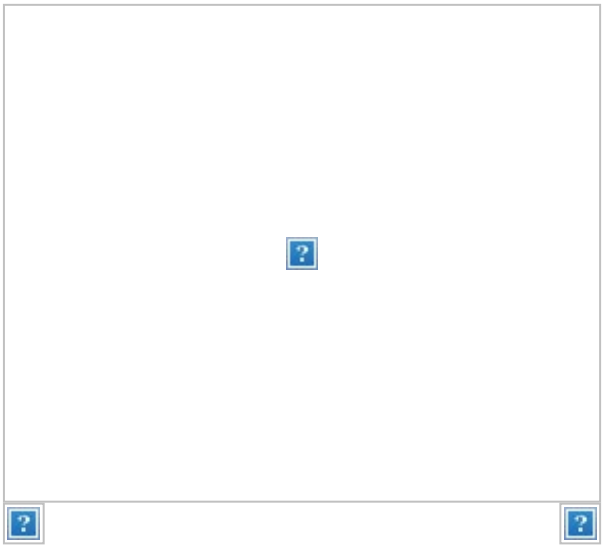
Mr. Zuckerberg posted a video of himself playing the instrument in his Palo Alto home, where he was accompanied by the offscreen wailing of his 1-year-old daughter, August.

“Dear Mark,” one person commented on the Facebook clip, “I wish you new algorithms.”

Read the full story here.

California Today goes live at 6 a.m. Pacific time weekdays. Tell us what you want to see: CAtoday@nytimes.com.

California Today is edited by Julie Bloom, who grew up in Los Angeles and graduated from U.C. Berkeley.



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